

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CU-02 MMO-01 PA-01 INR-07 CIAE-00

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O R 161622Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8782

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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USIA FOR IEU, IMV; STATE FOR EUR/SOV, CU/EE; MANILA FOR RSC;
VIENNA FOR RPO; LENINGRAD FOR P&C

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, UR, US

SUBJECT: BICENTENNIAL FILM FESTIVAL

1. EMBOFFS MET WITH GOSKINO OFFICIALS 13 SEPTEMBER. GOSKINO GROUP
HEADED BY DEPUTY CHIEF, INT'L RELATIONS, M.K. SHKALIKOV. FOR FIRST
TIME Y.T. KHODYAEV, PRES. INT'L FILM FESTIVALS PRESENT ALONG WITH
YU. A. BULATOV, CONSULTANT.

2. AFTER SHKALIKOV STATED WE'LL HAVE THE FESTIVAL, QUESTION OF DATES
RAISED WITH SOVIETS ASKING ABOUT NOV 7-13 AGAIN. EMBOFFS REPLIED
THIS NOT FEASIBLE BECAUSE OF BICENTENNIAL EXHIBIT, SEMINARS, ETC.
ONLY OTHER DATES OFFERED WERE 7-13 DECEMBER. EMBOFFS REPLIED THAT
THIS STILL DURING BICENTENNIAL EVENT. GOSKINO INDICATED THAT THESE
ONLY DATES AVAILABLE AND STRONGLY HINTED THAT IF FESTIVAL POSTPONED
INTO 1977, ENTIRE PROCESS WOULD HAVE TO BE INITIATED AGAIN.
EMBOFFS INDICATED THAT DATES WOULD BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION
IN CONSULTATION WITH WASHINGTON. EMBASSY REQUESTS REPLY
URGENTLY THIS MATTER*

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3. FOR FIRST TIME DETAILS OF FESTIVAL RAISED. GOSKINO EXTREMELY

INTERESTED IN LIST OF FILMS TO BE SHOWN. EMBOFFS REPLIED THAT EXACT LIST NOT AVAILABLE RATHER GENERAL CATEGORIES OF RETROSPECTIVE; HUMOR, MUSICAL, ADVENTURE, ETC. EMBOFFS RELATED IDEA OF SHOWING BEST FILMS REPRESENTING THESE CATEGORIES, TWO FILMS PER GROUP, FOR SEVERAL SHOWINGS DAILY, INCLUDING FILMS BETWEEN 1930-1970 ROUGHLY. GOSKINO REACTION WAS THAT THEY PREFER LATER FILMS FOR SEVEN DAYS WITH MULTIPLE SHOWINGS. EMBOFFS REPLIED THAT EXCEEDINGLY DIFFICULT TO HAVE RETROSPECTIVE FOR SO FEW FILMS. GOSKINO REITERATED THAT THEY COULD ONLY MANGE SEVEN*

4. CONCERNING TRANSLATION, GOSKINO PREFERS SUBTITLES AND HAD HOPED THIS COULD BE DONE--IN U.S., IF POSSIBLE. EMBOFFS ASKED IF NOT POSSIBLE COULD GOSKINO PROVIDE INSTANTANEOUS INTERPRETATION. ANSWER WAS POSITIVE.

5. EMBOFFS ASKED IF FESTIVAL COULD BE HELD AT CINEMA ROSSIYA OR OTHER PRESTIGIOUS THEATER. GOSKINO REPLIED THAT THESE FACILITIES NEVER USED FOR FESTIVALS BUT RATHER THE UDARNIK (LOCALE OF CANADIAN FESTIVAL, NEAR KREMLIN). ALSO, GOSKINO HAD NOT CONSIDERED RENTAL ENTIRE THEATER FOR FESTIVAL; INTENDED RATHER TO HAVE SOVIET SCREENINGS AT SAME TIME. EMBOFFS REQUESTED COST ESTIMATES FOR WHOLE THEATER WHICH SEATS ABOUT 1,000. GOSKINO WOULD CONSIDER AND SUBMIT ESTIMATE.

6. GOSKINO SAID TRADITIONALLY EMBASSIES SPONSORING FESTIVAL PROVIDE LIST OF PEOPLE TO BE INVITED TO SEMINAR AND THEY USUALLY SUPPLEMENT LIST. TOPICS TO BE GIVEN TO GOSKINO ALONG WITH PARTICIPANTS, WHEN KNOWN.

7. QUESTION OF SCREENING ANY SPECIAL AND EXTRA FILMS FOR SEMINAR BROACHED AND GOSKINO REPLIED THAT DOM KINO OR OTHER SUITABLE HALL WOULD BE PROVIDED. QUESTION OF THESE COSTS AND ALL OTHERS RAISED BY EMBOFF AND BUDGET (ESTIMATE) WILL BE PROVIDED LARGELY THROUGH OFFICES OF KHODYAEV.

8. FOR "PUBLIC" SHOWINGS, EMBASSY USUALLY RECEIVES NUMBER OF TICKETS DESIRED AND GOSKINO DISTRIBUTES REMAINDER.

9. GOSKINO MADE POINT SEVERAL TIMES THAT U.S. ASKING MUCH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MORE THAN OTHER COUNTRIES AND THAT REQUESTS WILL BE CONSIDERED. EMBOFFS REPLIED THAT THIS FIRST EVENT FOR U.S. ALSO AND MUCH WOULD DEPEND ON COSTS AND COOPERATION.

10. FACT THAT "SENDING SIDE PAYS" RAISED AGAIN AND ATMOSPHERE SEEMED CLEARER THIS TIME THAN IN PAST--A CERTAIN UNDERSTANDING SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN REACHED. THIS PRINCIPLE WILL BE PART OF ANY WRITTEN NEGOTIATIONS AS WELL.

11. BOTH SIDES UNCERTAIN AS TO SUBSEQUENT STEPS BUT SOME IDEA OF COST NEEDED SOON AS WELL AS AVAILABILITY SUITABLE DIRECTORS FOR SEMINAR PARTICIPATION. EMBASSY PROPOSES TO GIVE VERY INFORMAL LIST OF POSSIBLE FILMS TO GOSKINO IN NEAR FUTURE WHEN LIST AVAILABLE--EMPHASIZING THAT LIST ONLY INDICATIVE OF TYPE OF FILM DESIRED. GOSKINO EMPHASIZED THAT FILMS NEEDED ONE MONTH PRIOR TO FESTIVAL TO PREPARE TRANSLATIONS, ETC.

12. EMBASSY REALIZES LESS THAN THREE MONTHS REMAIN PRIOR TO PROPOSED DECEMBER DATES AND THAT BICENTENNIAL WILL BE "WRAPPING UP" OPERATION, BUT BELIEVE WE MUST ACCEPT LATEST PROPOSAL OR PLACE ENTIRE FESTIVAL IN JEOPARDY. REALIZE MANY QUESTIONS REMAIN--OUTSTANDING BEING COSTS AND AVAILABILITY OF FILMS AND DIRECTORS SOUGHT FOR INCONVENIENT TIME. JANUARY DATES BROACHED BY EMBOFFS BUT GOSKINO OFFERED NO HOPE DURING THAT PERIOD--OR EVEN LATER--DUE TO THEIR PREPARATIONS OTHER FESTIVALS AND LARGE FESTIVAL ENVISIONED IN USA.

13. INFO: VIENNA FOR RPO--WOULD TIME PERMIT PRODUCTION PRINTED PROGRAM IF DATA SUPPLIED WITHIN MONTH?

14. INFO: MANILA--WOULD DIALOGUE ISSUE ON FILM, IN RUSSIAN, BE AVAILABLE DECEMBER, 1976.
MATLOCK

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